

State of Alaska FY2003 Governor's Operating Budget

Department of Public Safety Batterers Intervention Program BRU/Component Budget Summary

BRU/Component: Batterers Intervention Program

(There is only one component in this BRU. To reduce duplicate information, we did not print a separate BRU section.)

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Component Mission

To provide for the planning and coordination of services to perpetrators of domestic violence.

Component Services Provided

Statutory duties of the Council include:

1. Develop, implement, maintain, and monitor domestic violence programs
2. Coordinate services provided by state agencies and community groups dealing with domestic violence, and provide technical assistance to those agencies and groups
3. Develop and implement a standardized data collection system on domestic violence
4. Conduct public hearings and studies on issues relating to domestic violence
5. Receive and dispense state money and award grants and contracts from appropriations for the purpose to qualified local community entities for domestic violence programs
6. Oversee and audit domestic violence programs that receive these funds
7. Provide fiscal and technical assistance to domestic violence programs
8. Adopt regulations to carry out the purposes of AS 18.66 and to protect the health, safety, well being, and privacy of persons receiving services financed with grants and contracts under that chapter
9. Consult with the Alaska Police Standards Council and other police training programs in the state to develop training programs regarding domestic violence for police, correction, probation and parole officers.
10. Consult with public employers, the Alaska Supreme Court, school districts and prosecuting authorities to provide continuing education courses in domestic violence to employees.

Component Goals and Strategies

1) HOLD BATTERERS ACCOUNTABLE FOR THEIR ACTIONS AND DECREASE THEIR CRIMINAL ACTIVITY.

- a) Provide community-based batterers' intervention program services to offenders.
- b) Continue to approve and monitor batterers' intervention programs in partnership with the Department of Corrections.
- c) Establish clear measures for effectiveness of batterers' intervention programs by determining outcome measures and developing on-going research tools.
- d) Increase the understanding of how batterers' intervention programs fit into the process of breaking the cycle of violence through interdisciplinary training.
- e) Monitor batterers' compliance to court orders.
- f) Develop strategies to ensure a continuum of offender sanctions.

2) THROUGH A COMMON VISION, CREATE A STRONG NETWORK AMONG INDIVIDUALS WORKING TO ASSIST VICTIMS OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AND SEXUAL ASSAULT AND MAINTAIN A COORDINATED COMMUNITY RESPONSE IN HOLDING OFFENDERS ACCOUNTABLE FOR THEIR BEHAVIOR.

- a) Improve the criminal justice response to offender accountability by promoting more uniform sentencing requirements, supervising offenders on probation, and expediting the response to the violation of a court order or probation.
- b) Work with offender programs to explore all available resources for funding to make offender programs financially self-supporting.

3) DEVELOP AND IMPLEMENT A COMPREHENSIVE EDUCATIONAL PREVENTION EFFORT ABOUT DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AND SEXUAL ASSAULT, WHICH MOVES PEOPLE TOWARD A COMMON PHILOSOPHY OF ZERO TOLERANCE.

- a) Increase public awareness and knowledge of the extent of domestic violence and sexual assault and its consequences for victims, perpetrators, and communities.
- b) Educate the public that violence is unacceptable, and offenders will be held accountable for their behavior.

Funds appropriated for this program are administered by the Council on Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault.

Key Component Issues for FY2002 – 2003

Requiring batterers to attend intervention programming as a condition of probation or as a consequence of committing the crime of domestic violence is becoming an integral part of many community's responses to domestic violence. While these programs have been developed to affect change, it must be understood that they cannot be expected to deter domestic violence in isolation. A strong coordinated criminal justice response is also needed. The combined impact of arrest, incarceration and adjudication may send as strong, or stronger, message to batterers' about their responsibility for their abusive behavior as batterers' intervention programs can. A unified and comprehensive effort is thought to be the most effective. Having victim advocates to monitor victim safety and to assist victims as their case progresses through the criminal justice system, cooperation between the courts, probation and batterers' intervention programs, strong and effective legislation and developing philosophically sound programs that work with batterers' is all a part of this system response required to effectively impact the rate of domestic violence.

Studies show that batterers use violence to demonstrate power and achieve control. Certain factors are associated with battering: low self-esteem, a history of childhood abuse, narcissistic personalities, lack of value of women, sense of male privilege, and exposure to male role models who have shown hostile attitudes toward women. To change these long-held patterns, men must acknowledge the destructive nature of their present behavior and accept responsibility for their actions. To best support change, the batterer must be held fully accountable for his use of violence by a community that establishes and enforces consequences for continued acts of abuse. One important step in achieving this goal is to provide batterers' intervention programs as a portion of the corrections response to batterers. This provides a clear message that battering is not acceptable, that there are consequences to this behavior and that there are alternative ways of behaving that are not violent.

Alaska is on its way to providing a strong community response to battering throughout the state: Victim services programs, batterers' intervention programs, court personnel, prosecutors, and police departments are coordinating efforts to build effective intervention strategies for communities. Through the joint efforts of the Council and Department of Corrections, there have been a total of sixteen batterers' intervention programs approved. The Council reviews all submissions for compliance with regulations, provides technical assistance to programs as needed and monitors programs for on-going compliance. These programs vary in approach although the primary goals of victim safety and batterers accountability are paramount. These programs work with the local community, court system, probation, victim services, and police departments to coordinate services to be provided as well as to monitor and coordinate the batterers' compliance and success within the program. Last fiscal year, there were 1,412 batterers admitted to community-based batterers' intervention programs in throughout the state. These numbers represent one full fiscal year of data and only include batterers admitted to the Council funded programs. There are several for-profit programs that do not submit data to the database.

This is an important beginning to increasing community responses to battering. But, there are many things left to accomplish. To provide a more effective approach to domestic violence there needs to be:

- Increased number of batterers' intervention programs
- Research and evaluation of effectiveness of programs
- Stronger support from court systems with consequences for non-compliance
- Increased understanding of the issue of domestic violence and the limitations of batterers' intervention programs.

Major Component Accomplishments in 2001

BATTERERS' INTERVENTION PROGRAMS

Community-based Batterers' Intervention Program

1,412 Offenders participated in community-based batterers' intervention programs funded by CDVSA.

REGULATION OF PROGRAMS FOR REHABILITATION OF PERPETRATORS OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

Under the Domestic Violence Prevention and Victim Protection Act of 1996, community-based batterers' intervention programs must meet the Department of Corrections' regulations prior to receiving court referrals of offenders. The Department of Corrections, in collaboration with the Council on Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault (the Council), drafted and approved regulations of programs providing intervention services to perpetrators of domestic violence. The Council provides continued technical assistance and training to programs which are operating or seeking to operate batterers' programs.

VICTIM INFORMATION AND NOTIFICATION EVERYDAY (VINE)

In fulfilling its obligation under the Domestic Violence Act, the Department of Corrections implemented the VINE system, a computer program, which provides victims of crime continuous access to vital inmate information over the phone. By calling the VINE telephone number, a crime victim can determine the current custody status of the person(s) who victimized them. Victims can also register with the VINE program to be automatically notified of the release, transfer or escape of a specific inmate.

CENTRAL REGISTRY OF PROTECTIVE ORDERS

To improve victim safety by tracking protective orders, the Department of Public Safety developed and is maintaining a central registry of protective orders issued by or filed with the court, including out of state protective orders. The registry was implemented in the existing Alaska Public Safety Information Network (APSIN) which provides 24-hour, seven days a week availability. The registry includes emergency, ex parte and protection orders and historical data for all three order types is retained. Alaska is also a participant in the federal Protection Order File contained in the FBI's National Crime Information Center (NCIC).

Prosecutors now have access to information about current and past civil orders which provides the history of the offender with current and former partners. The information is essential to courts when determining conditions of release (pretrial and post conviction) in order to coordinate effective protection mechanisms for victims and their family members. Probation and parole officers also access this information to improve their ability to monitor offenders and increase victim safety.

COMMUNITY COLLABORATIONS

As the lead agency for the Violence Against Women Act STOP Project, the Council developed a collaborative statewide effort with law enforcement, prosecution, courts, victim advocates and service providers, and achieved the following:

Victim Services: Continued the Legal Advocacy Project which provided training and legal consultation to victim advocates, continued implementation of a pro-bono program for victims, increased access to translators in the court system.

Prosecution: Statewide conference for prosecutors and paralegals on domestic violence, sexual assault and stalking. Paralegal Coordinator to mentor and train paralegals in assisting domestic violence and sexual assault clients and purchase of audio-visual equipment for use at trial.

Law Enforcement: Continue statewide training of officers on the issues of domestic violence, sexual assault and stalking, expand training to address interviewing child witnesses of domestic violence, provide funding for sexual assault response trainings and continued training on the changes in federal, state and local laws.

Judicial: Training of judges, magistrates and other court personnel on domestic violence dynamics and stalking, and development of interpreter's referral line.

Statutory and Regulatory Authority

- 1) Child Protection and Training (AS 47.17.022)
- 2) Child Protection- Duties of department in domestic violence cases (AS 47.17.035)
- 3) Claims- Presentation of claims required (2 AAC 25.010)
- 4) Conflict of Interest- Report of financial and business interests (AS 39.50.020)
- 5) Council on Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault (13 AAC 90.010-190)
- 6) Department of Corrections- Duties of the department (AS44.28.020)
- 7) Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault (AS 18.66.010-990)
- 8) Domestic Violence Training (AS 18.65.510)
- 9) Grant Administration- Audit requirements (2 AAC 45.010)

- 10) Grant Programs (13 ACC 95.010-900)
- 11) Health and Safety Education- Curriculum (AS 14.30.360)
- 12) Permanent Fund- Public Notice (AS 43.23.028)
- 13) Sentencing and Probation-day fines (AS 12.55.036)
- 14) Termination of state boards and commissions (AS 44.66.010)

Batterers Intervention Program

Component Financial Summary

All dollars in thousands

	FY2001 Actuals	FY2002 Authorized	FY2003 Governor
Non-Formula Program:			
Component Expenditures:			
71000 Personal Services	0.0	0.0	0.0
72000 Travel	0.0	0.0	0.0
73000 Contractual	0.0	0.0	0.0
74000 Supplies	0.0	0.0	0.0
75000 Equipment	0.0	0.0	0.0
76000 Land/Buildings	0.0	0.0	0.0
77000 Grants, Claims	319.4	320.0	320.0
78000 Miscellaneous	0.0	0.0	0.0
Expenditure Totals	319.4	320.0	320.0
Funding Sources:			
1004 General Fund Receipts	119.4	120.0	120.0
1050 Permanent Fund Dividend Fund	200.0	200.0	200.0
Funding Totals	319.4	320.0	320.0

Estimated Revenue Collections

Description	Master Revenue Account	FY2001 Actuals	FY2002 Authorized	FY2002 Cash Estimate	FY2003 Governor	FY2004 Forecast
<u>Unrestricted Revenues</u>						
None.		0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Unrestricted Total		0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
<u>Restricted Revenues</u>						
Permanent Fund Dividend Fund	51160	200.0	200.0	200.0	200.0	200.0
Restricted Total		200.0	200.0	200.0	200.0	200.0
Total Estimated Revenues		200.0	200.0	200.0	200.0	200.0

Batterers Intervention Program

Proposed Changes in Levels of Service for FY2003

No service changes.

Summary of Component Budget Changes

From FY2002 Authorized to FY2003 Governor

All dollars in thousands

	<u>General Funds</u>	<u>Federal Funds</u>	<u>Other Funds</u>	<u>Total Funds</u>
FY2002 Authorized	120.0	0.0	200.0	320.0
FY2003 Governor	120.0	0.0	200.0	320.0